

23rd June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following on from my message in last Friday's newsletter, we have now surveyed our Year 2 parents to gauge the take up of the Y2 transition offer in the last week of term. We have had an overwhelming response from Y2 parents who are keen for their children to have the chance to return to school in the last week of term, to say goodbye to their teachers, and have a sense of closure before they move on to the junior school.

We have therefore had to make the difficult decision to say goodbye to our Year 1 children 1 week before the end of term, with **Thursday 9th July being the last day of school for Year 1 children currently attending school.** We are writing to you to explain our proposed arrangements for the Autumn term.

As yet we currently do not know what school will look like in September, we await further guidance on this. It may be that we are unable to teach 30 children in a classroom. It is likely that the Government will not make a final decision until August. Whatever decision is made; we will need a chance to plan carefully for the children's return.

We have provisionally made the following transition arrangements for each year group in place of the usual arrangements that would normally take place in the summer term. We will send out final confirmation of these arrangements once the Government has made a final decision on social distancing guidelines, but I hope this gives you some reassurance that we will do everything we can to ensure a smooth transition for your child.

Transition arrangements:

New children joining Nursery in Sept 2020:

- a 'welcome' video message of their new class, teachers and staff supporting them
- a presentation to parents – virtual meeting of staff teams, routines of the nursery day, an outline of what the provision will look like, how to prepare your child for their first day
- Sept 3rd and 4th – Stay and Play sessions (school based - in place of home visits) welcoming new children and their parent/carer into the nursery
- Sept 4th – Food Tasting session for new Reception and Nursery parents (no children) in the Great Hall to introduce parents to school meals. Nursery children can access a school lunch if they have a Full Time place in the nursery or if they are staying for lunch club.
- From Sept 7th – staggered start with groups of 8 children (without parents)

Current Nursery children joining Reception in Sept 2020:

- a 'welcome' video message of their new class, teachers and staff supporting them
- a presentation to parents – virtual meeting of staff teams, routines of the school day, an outline of what the provision will look like, how to prepare your child for their first day
- Sept 3rd – Stay and Play sessions (school based - in place of home visits) welcoming new children with their parent/carer into their new class
- Sept 4th – Second Stay and Play session (school based - in place of home visits) welcoming new children (without their parent/carer)
- Sept 4th – Food Tasting session for new Reception and Nursery parents (no children) in the Great Hall to introduce parents to school meals (offered free to all infant aged children Reception to Y2)
- From Sept 7th – staggered start with groups of 8 children (without parents)

Current Reception children joining Year 1 in Sept 2020:

- a 'welcome' video message of their new class, teachers and staff supporting them
- w/c 6.7.20 – a transition session for children currently attending school with their new Y1 class teacher and teaching assistant for games and a story to offer an opportunity for children to get to know their new teachers – this will be during the school day and held outside. Days for each class to be confirmed.
- 10.7.20 – Offer for current Reception children who are currently not attending school to come in to school for a transition visit to meet and get to know their new class teacher and teaching assistant for games and a story – this will be held outside in the afternoon. Days for each class to be confirmed. Can we ask the parents of Reception children who are currently not attending school, please respond to this short survey - <https://forms.gle/X7E62HaSqDp9pY5t9>
- 3rd and 4th Sept – children with EHCPs invited in for transition visits with SEN staff supporting them, transition days for Year 1 children – details to follow
- From Sept 7th – children start first full week at school

Current Year 1 children joining Year 2 in Sept 2020:

- a 'welcome' video message of their new class, teachers and staff supporting them
- w/c 6.7.20 – a transition session for children currently attending school with their new Y2 class teacher and teaching assistant for games and a story to offer an opportunity for children to get to know their new teachers – this will be during the school day and held outside. Days for each class to be confirmed.
- 10.7.20 – Offer for current Year 1 children who are currently not attending school to come in to school for a transition visit to meet and get to know their new class teacher and teaching assistant for games and a story – this will be held outside in the morning. Days for each class to be confirmed. Can we ask the parents of Year 1 children who are currently not attending school, to please respond to this short survey - <https://forms.gle/hb7Kvvhk6qSoDfbCA>
- A task will be set by the children's new Year 2 teachers and posted on Google Classrooms – details to follow
- Year 1 teachers will set fun activities for the last week of term which will be optional, for you to enjoy with your children at home.
- 3rd and 4th Sept – children with EHCPs invited in for transition visits with parents to meet new teachers, SEN staff supporting them, transition days for Year 1 children – details to follow



- From Sept 7th – children start first full week at school

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Current Year 2 children joining Year 3 in Sept 2020:

- Mrs Utting, Mr Blow and Ms Case have sent out recorded messages on the Y2 Google Classrooms pages
- w/c 29.6.20 - A short video introduction from your child's new class teacher introducing themselves and sharing some of their interests.
- Activity set on google classroom for your child to share some of their hobbies and interests with their new Y3 class teacher.
- w/c 6.7.20 - A short video tour of year 3 from current year 3 children with some top tips!
- A postcard to your child from their new class teacher and teaching assistant welcoming them to Burlington Junior School.
- w/c 13.7.20 - Distribution of a year 3 welcome pack including information about the start of term, healthy snacks, homework and a postcard template for children to complete in the holidays.
- w/c 13.7.20 – Year 2 children invited in for 2 days each, in 'bubbles' of 8 children
- Y2 graduation concerts – these will be held each day at 2:30 for individual classes, socially distanced on the field. One parent per child can attend (no additional children or buggies will be allowed). These will take around 20 minutes. The new Y3 class teacher and Mr Blow (Deputy Headteacher of the junior school) and/or Mrs Utting (Headteacher of the junior school) will attend the ceremony to meet the children.
- 3rd and 4th September – transition days – the junior school will contact Year 2 children with further details of their transition arrangements and dates

Best wishes



Mrs Yay-Walker

Headteacher

